

SCOOBY-DOO AND GUESS WHO?
"THE TERRIFYING TELENODELA FELLA"
Jinkies! It's Rita Moreno!

Written by

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COLD OPEN

INT. CHURCH - DAY

CAMILLA, a brunette bride, and OSCAR, her mustachioed groom, stand at the altar with a PRIEST.

PRIEST
-- if anyone objects speak now or --

RITA
I object!

RITA MORENO marches up the aisle, fueled by rage.

OSCAR
Mother? I thought you were dead!

RITA
You cannot marry this woman! She's
a liar and a thief!

Everybody gasps.

CAMILLA
Don't believe her, Hector!

RITA
Admit you stole my -- my -- Cut!
[DIRECTED OFFSCREEN] We need to
cut.

REVEAL: This is a television production on a sound stage.

JON, the bushy-browed director, approaches the actors.

JON
The line is "Admit you stole my
beautiful diamond bracelet,
handcrafted by the family-owned
Barrow Jewelers."

RITA
I know what it is! But that isn't a
line, it's a commercial!

JON
No, it's product placement. We've
got a new show sponsor.

GRANT BARROW, a lanky man in a business suit, waves from just off set.

GRANT
You're amazing, Rita!

RITA
Thank you, dear. I know. [TO JON]
Can't we be a little less in
everybody's face about the sponsor?

OFFSCREEN a sinister laugh echoes out.

RITA
I'm not joking.

REVEAL: MAXIMO MALVADO, the cowboy hat and eyepatch wearing,
goateed phantom, with a scar across one cheek. He strums a
Spanish guitar as he poses in the rafters.

RITA
[GASPS] Maximo Malvado!

Maximo lets out an evil laugh as he cuts the ropes of several
lights. They crash down around set, sending cast and crew
scrambling for safety.

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONE

EXT. STUDIO LOT - DAY

Velma sits backwards on a studio tram, excitedly speaking as she points out various buildings.

VELMA

-- and this is where they shot *Dias De Mi Amor*, starring Pauline Rivera. It lasted nearly thirty seasons. [THEN] Oh! And that's the building where they shot the final scene of *Amor Al Misterio*, where Fernando's long lost son stopped his marriage to the evil gold digger, Natasha. [THEN] And --

TOUR GUIDE

[CLEARS THROAT] This is my tour.

A disgruntled TOUR GUIDE sits beside Velma. She sheepishly returns to her seat, next to Fred.

VELMA

Sorry. I'm a really big telenovela fan. The complex storylines, shocking plot twists, it's all so interesting.

TOUR GUIDE

[MONOTONE] Yes, we're all big fans.

FRED

[TO VELMA] What did you say that last show was called?

VELMA

Amor Al Misterio.

Fred flips through his Spanish-English dictionary.

FRED

Love -- of -- Mystery. Sounds neat!

Daphne raises her hand.

TOUR GUIDE

I'm not taking questions.

DAPHNE

When will we be stopping at the executive offices?

TOUR GUIDE
Never. That's not part of the tour.

DAPHNE
Then can we make a slight detour?

REVEAL: Shaggy's holding a presentation board next to her.

SHAGGY
Like, we have an amazing new series
we want to pitch.

DAPHNE
It's a sure-fire hit.

The tour guide sighs and rubs his forehead.

TOUR GUIDE
Let's just --

RITA (O.S.)
Stop!

Rita stands in front of the tram, hand up. The tour guide
screams as he hits the brakes.

GANG
Legendary, multi-award winning star
of film, stage and screen, Rita
Moreno?

RITA
I am. And I recognize you too --
Velma, Fred, Daphne, Shaggy and,
the courageous canine, Scooby-Doo.

Scooby giggles and blushes.

FRED
You know us?

RITA
Of course! You're the gang who
stopped the Creeper, caught the
Luna Ghost and wrangled the Toxic
Terror.

SHAGGY
That last one was just, like, Scoob
and I.

SCOOBY
[CRINGES] And it was awful.

RITA
Regardless, I need you all off this
tram immediately.

The gang looks at the tour guide.

FRED
I'm not sure we're supposed to
leave the tram.

TOUR GUIDE
Go! Please, go...

As soon as they step off, he speeds away without them.

INT. RITA'S DRESSING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

As Rita changes behind a screen, the gang casually looks
around the room.

RITA
I was shooting a scene for *Pasión,
Emoción Y Asesinato* --

VELMA
No way! That's my favorite! Who are
you playing? Wait, don't tell me!

Velma pulls out a tablet and looks over a family tree.

VELMA
Hector's... mother?

RITA
You are absolutely correct. But how
did you know that?

VELMA
I've put together a comprehensive
family tree of every character in
the series. Hector's mother's been
missing since episode one, so I had
a feeling she might show up at his
wedding to Carla.

Rita looks over Velma's work.

RITA
This looks like something a crazy
person would make.

VELMA
Thank you?

FRED

What were you saying you needed our help with?

RITA

Right. Right. Yes. I was shooting a scene earlier today when we were attacked by the phantom of Maximo Malvado!

Velma gasps, but the others don't react.

SHAGGY

Like, who's he?

RITA

Who's he? Who's he?! Maximo Malvado was the greatest telenovela villain who ever graced the screen!

INT. BEACH HOUSE SET - DAY (FLASHBACK)

A non-phantom version of Maximo barges in on a COUPLE embracing, angrily wielding a sword.

RITA

Over his career, Maximo starred as the worst, most despicable, most cruel men imaginable. Breaking hearts, ruining marriages, killing the innocent and committing so many more sinister deeds.

INT./EXT. VARIOUS SETS - MONTAGE

On one knee, Maximo plays his guitar for a BLONDE WOMAN. A BRUNETTE WOMAN watches nearby, crying.

Maximo pushes a BEARDED MAN off a balcony.

Maximo pops the balloon of a SMALL CHILD.

EXT. RODEO SET - DAY

Maximo leaps before a SCARED WOMAN, carrying a red cape.

RITA

And then, in the finale of *Yo Odio Amarte*, Maximo was given the biggest twist of all time. To finally become the hero.

INT. RITA'S DRESSING ROOM - BACK TO SCENE

The gang intently listens to Rita.

DAPHNE

That sounds like a sweet story. Why would he want to attack anybody?

RITA

Because I wasn't finished... He was given the chance, but he did not succeed as, during his final scene, he was killed by a bull.

The gang gasps.

SHAGGY

So, like, what does he want now?

RITA

Revenge, of course! That's why we call him el sinvergüenza fantasma.

Fred flips through his Spanish-English dictionary.

FRED

The phantom who can't see?

RITA

The Phantom Scoundrel. [THEN] But you were close.

She pats Fred on the shoulder. Jon barges in.

JON

All right, Rita, I need you on set. [THEN] Who are they?

RITA

This is the world-famous Mystery Incorporated!

JON

Never heard of them.

VELMA

We're here to solve the mystery of Maximo Malvado.

JON

That old hack? He's no big deal. [THEN] I mean, he left me a note and you don't see me panicking about it.

He hands Daphne a note.

 DAPHNE
[READING] Stop advertising or my
curse will continue. [THEN] Curse?

 JON
Total nonsense.

 VELMA
What does he mean by stop
advertising?

 RITA
They've filled the show with
horrible product placement.

 JON
Rita, I told you, the sponsor forks
over a lot of money so we'll put
their products in the show. That's
how it works. This is a business.

 RITA
Acting's no business, it's an art!

She strikes a pose.

 JON
Sure it is, Picasso. Now, let's go.
Everybody's already on set. Bring
the kids along if you have to.

INT. HOSPITAL SET - MOMENTS LATER

Rita's in a hospital bed, her eyes closed, surrounded by
Oscar and Camilla.

 OSCAR
I only just met her, but now she's
in a coma. This is terrible.

 CAMILLA
[SMILING] Yes. A tragedy.

Rita groggily opens her eyes.

 RITA
Hello? Who's there?

 OSCAR
[GASPS] She's awake!

CAMILLA
That's impossible!

RITA
Who are you people?

OSCAR
[GASPS] She has amnesia!

RITA
I do?

An evil laugh echoes over the scene.

JON
No, no, no. The next line is for
Camilla. "Do you recognize this
beautifully, hand-crafted Barrow
Jewelers necklace?" There's no
sinister laughter.

RITA
That wasn't us.

DAPHNE
Over there!

Maximo strums his guitar as he flips a switch and cuts the
power. He laughs. Camilla screams.

OSCAR
Camilla?

Fred switches the lights on. Camilla and Maximo aren't there.

VELMA
Camilla's gone!

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. HOSPITAL SET - DAY

Grant rushes over to Rita, Jon, Oscar and the gang.

GRANT

I heard a commotion. What's the matter?

SHAGGY

That, like, formerly famous, freaky phantom filched the femme fatale!

GRANT

What?

SCOOBY

Maximo kidnapped Camilla.

GRANT

[GASPS] Oh no! We must find her!

JON

I've already notified studio security. Not much else we can do.

RITA

That's why I brought these kids in. They'll figure this out.

FRED

Right! This mystery is as good as --
[CHECKS DICTIONARY] resuelto.

OSCAR

Projected?

VELMA

He means solved. Resuelto.

Oscar understandingly nods.

DAPHNE

Since you're here though, Mr. Barrow, my associate Shaggy and I have a business opportunity you may be interested in.

Shaggy grabs their presentation board.

SHAGGY

It's a sitcom about --

OSCAR

I think I'm gonna head back to my trailer until this is sorted out.

JON

Good idea. Rita, you better stay in your dressing room too, in case that nut tries another kidnapping.

Everybody starts to head off.

DAPHNE

Mr. Barrow, wait! You didn't hear our pitch.

GRANT

I really appreciate it, but I -- uh -- I don't think another sponsorship deal is really financially responsible at the moment. [POLITELY] But I'm sure it's great.

Shaggy and Daphne look dejected as he walks off.

INT. RITA'S DRESSING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Rita picks a vase up off the floor.

RITA

Something's not right.

SHAGGY

Agreed. Every time we go somewhere there's a ghoul, spook or monster. [LISTING] Paris, San Francisco --

SCOOBY

[LISTING] Palm Springs, abandoned prison, space...

RITA

No. Something's not right here. This vase was on that table when we left.

VELMA

Jinkies, look! Footprints.

A set of footprints lead towards a mirror on the wall.

RITA

They disappear into the mirror.

SHAGGY

Like, maybe whoever it was took one look at themselves and scared their socks and shoes right off. [LAUGHS]

VELMA

Wait a minute...

Velma reaches a hand behind the mirror. There's a click and the mirror swings open to reveal a secret passageway. It bumps into the table with the vase.

VELMA

That explains the vase.

FRED

A secret tunnel?

RITA

How long has that been there?

VELMA

I'm not sure, but I've got a hunch it leads to our mysterious phantom.

FRED

So how should we split up? Obviously some of us head down the tunnel but, I guess, the others just look around up here? That seems like the way we usually do it, right? Daphne, you and Velma and I can --

DAPHNE

I'm gonna stay here with Shaggy to work on our presentation.

RITA

Great. If Jon asks, pretend I'm still here. [THEN] Let's go.

Rita heads into the tunnel. Velma follows. Fred looks at Scooby.

FRED

Are you staying here too?

SCOOBY

That's probably best.

Fred nods and heads into the tunnel. Daphne sets up their presentation board.

DAPHNE

After that poor performance I think we need to work on our delivery a bit. Really perfect our elevator pitch.

SHAGGY

Like, I did feel like we weren't getting to the point quick enough.

The pair stare at the board. Scooby sighs.

INT. TUNNEL - MOMENTS LATER

Rita, Velma and Fred carefully tiptoe along the corridor.

RITA

What a creepy passageway.

VELMA

It's actually pretty clean by comparison. Usually we find one of these and it's full of spiders.

FRED

Yeah. Spiders and -- [CHECKS DICTIONARY] pollo.

VELMA

Chicken?

RITA

Chicken?

FRED

That wasn't "dust"?

Rita lovingly puts her hand on Fred.

RITA

[LAUGHS] That's polvo. [THEN]
You're a sweet boy, but you need a lot more practice.

INT. OCEAN SET - CONTINUOUS

Rita, Velma and Fred emerge from a door, into a massive space with a green screen and large, empty pool.

FRED

Why does a studio have such a big swimming pool?

RITA
This is where we shoot ocean
scenes.

VELMA
[GIDDY] Like Vanessa's shark attack
in *Perdida Sin Mi Amante*?

RITA
Sure.

Muffled hollers echo out.

FRED
Did you hear that?

Rita points off screen.

RITA
It's Camilla!

REVEAL: Camilla's tied to a chair, in the empty pool.

INT. POOL - CONTINUOUS

The trio hurry down to Camilla and get her untied.

RITA
Are you okay?

CAMILLA
I'm fine. But we better get out of
here, that creep could be back at
any moment.

VELMA
Did he say anything to you or give
you any hints at what he's
planning?

CAMILLA
No, not really.

INT. OCEAN SET - SAME

Peeking around a corner, outside the pool, Maximo eyes the
group with a sinister grin.

INT. POOL - CONTINUOUS

CAMILLA

He did make a call after he tied me up though... Something about his family. He didn't seem too happy about it.

FRED

Was he -- [CHECKS DICTIONARY]

There's a loud clank.

VELMA

Fred, stop.

FRED

Velma, I'm trying to practice my -- [CHECKS DICTIONARY] esperado.

VELMA

I know, but I think I heard something.

CAMILLA

So did I.

Maximo laughs offscreen.

CAMILLA

Oh no! He's back!

The pool covering begins to close.

RITA

He's going to trap us!

Fred races up a side ladder, but doesn't reach the top in time. He pushes at the covering, but it's shut tight.

FRED

We're -- [CHECKS DICTIONARY]

EVERYONE

Stop!

FRED

Sorry. [THEN] We're trapped.

RITA

Well, at least he can't do anything to us in here.

Suddenly, water begins rushing in, filling the pool.

RITA
Me and my big mouth.

INT. RITA'S DRESSING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Shaggy and Daphne finish their presentation.

DAPHNE
-- which is why we feel this series
is perfect for your network.

SHAGGY
Like, I know I'd watch!

They lean against one another, back to back, and smile.

DAPHNE
Well?

REVEAL: Scooby is their only audience. He's unimpressed.

SCOOBY
Needs work.

DAPHNE
I knew it. [THEN] Let's try
describing the characters before we
get into the season arc.

Shaggy and Daphne rearrange their presentation board. Maximo
exits the secret tunnel and sits by Scooby.

SHAGGY
How's this look, Scoob?

SCOOBY
Better.

SHAGGY
And what's your friend think?

Scooby turns, noticing Maximo. Maximo gives him a terrifying
smile. Scooby gulps.

SCOOBY
Uh... Shaggy? Daphne?

DAPHNE
We're working on it. Hold on.

SCOOBY
Yeah, but --

Shaggy turns around.

SHAGGY
What is it, Sc-- [SEES MAXIMO]
Zoinks!

He taps Daphne's shoulder. She begrudgingly turns around.

DAPHNE
It's almost ready, just -- [SEES
MAXIMO] Jeepers!

Maximo laughs and strums his guitar. The trio run.

INT. GARDEN SET - MOMENTS LATER

Daphne, Shaggy and Scooby run along a row of hedges, Maximo close behind.

Maximo passes a fountain where the trio have posed as water-squirting statues. As soon as he's gone, they run off, only for him to notice and circle back after them.

INT. BEDROOM SET - MOMENTS LATER

The trio run into a large armoire, but when Maximo opens it, they're gone.

The trio peek out from behind the window curtains. Maximo hurriedly pulls them open, but again, they're gone.

Daphne, Shaggy and Scooby pop their heads out from under the bed and Maximo immediately dives under it after them. At the same moment, the trio emerge from a closet and run out of the room, jumping atop the bed and smashing Maximo underneath it as they do.

INT. FOYER SET - MOMENTS LATER

Maximo arrives at the bottom of a staircase. Daphne descends it, in an elegant gown.

DAPHNE
Maximo, you've finally arrived! I
was starting to worry.

Maximo's confused as Daphne gives him a hug.

DAPHNE
Would you play that song you wrote
for me. Pretty please?

The moment he strums his guitar, he's slapped across the face by Scooby. Scooby's disguised as an elegant woman.

SCOOBY
Maximo! How could you?

DAPHNE
Get out of here, Scoobina. Maximo
loves me now.

SCOOBY
[GASPS] Is that true?

Maximo nervously looks between the pair. Shaggy slaps him. Shaggy's dressed as a proper gentleman.

SHAGGY
Well? Spit it out, Maximo. Who do
you love?

Maximo is unsure. Daphne slaps him.

DAPHNE
He loves me!

Scooby slaps him.

SCOOBY
No, me!

Shaggy slaps him.

SHAGGY
Spit it out, Maximo!

Daphne slaps him.

DAPHNE
Tell them, Maximo!

The trio repeatedly slap Maximo until he runs from the set.

INT. OCEAN SET - MOMENTS LATER

Daphne, Shaggy and Scooby rush in, slam the door shut and breathe a sigh of relief.

DAPHNE
I think we lost him.

Muffled screams echo out.

SHAGGY
[GULPS] But I think we found
something else!

Daphne listens closer.

DAPHNE
That sounds like Fred!

INT. POOL - CONTINUOUS

Rita, Camilla, Velma and Fred are moments away from losing their last remaining space of oxygen, when the covering opens. They swim to the side.

INT. OCEAN SET - CONTINUOUS

Daphne, Shaggy and Scooby help them out.

SHAGGY
Like, you picked a weird time to go
swimming. [LAUGHS]

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. CAMILLA'S DRESSING ROOM - DAY

Rita, Camilla, Velma and Fred dry off, as Daphne, Shaggy and Scooby sit nearby.

DAPHNE

I can't believe Maximo tried to drown you!

VELMA

[EXCITED] I know, right? It was just like his plot in the fourth season of *Traición Del Hermano De Mi Hermana*! [THEN] Except we weren't trying to buy his family's farm.

Oscar enters, worriedly carrying a piece of paper.

OSCAR

[GASPS] Camilla! You're okay!

They hug.

OSCAR

I saw somebody was in here and assumed security was looking for clues. [THEN] I just found this note in my dressing room and thought it might help.

He hands the note to Velma.

VELMA

[READING] This is your final warning. Obey my wishes or face the consequences.

SHAGGY

[GULPS] Well, it was good while it lasted, but sounds like the show's over. See you at the wrap party!

RITA

No, the show must go on!

Rita snatches the note and marches out. Surprised, the gang hurriedly follows.

INT. JON'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Rita bursts in, startling Jon as he polishes an award.

JON
Rita, you scared me!

RITA
Jon, we need to talk.

JON
I've told you a hundred times, the product placement stays. That makes up half our budget.

RITA
It's not about that. Read this.

She hands him Oscar's note as the gang arrives.

JON
Another phony threat.

RITA
Phony? I was nearly drowned!

JON
Studio security is handling it. We all need to calm down and proceed like business as usual.

RITA
You can't be serious!

VELMA
You seem a little too calm about this phantom...

RITA
Yes, somebody might get hurt.

JON
And if they do, we'll write it into the episode. [THEN] Now, I don't appreciate what you're implying. So please leave. All of you.

He ushers them all out. Daphne and Shaggy step aside and prop up their presentation board.

DAPHNE
Before we go, might you be interested in producing an all-new series about --

JON

Out!

Daphne and Shaggy dejectedly follow the others.

INT. LOBBY - CONTINUOUS

The gang bumps into Grant as he heads towards the office.

RITA

Excuse us, Mr. Barrow.

He bitterly grunts.

GRANT

Watch where you're going.

FRED

That was rude.

DAPHNE

Yeah, he seemed so nice before.

A nearby RECEPTIONIST interjects.

RECEPTIONIST

It's probably because he's cutting ties with the show.

EVERYONE

He is?

RECEPTIONIST

Shocked me too. All I've ever heard him say is how much he loves the show, especially now that Rita's in the cast. But that's what happens when productions get delayed. Sponsors pull out. The same thing happened with *Gemelas De Venganza*, except they had contract disputes instead of a phantom.

VELMA

[GASPS] That's it!

FRED

[CHECKING DICTIONARY] Binoculars?

VELMA

[SIGHS] No, Fred. It's -- Actually, don't worry. I need you to make us a trap.

FRED
Trap? Now you're speaking my
language!

RITA
How do you expect to trap a
phantom?

VELMA
By doing exactly what he wants us
not to do.

INT. BALCONY SET - LATER

Rita steps out, looking distraught.

RITA
How could you do this to me?

Fred, dressed to the nines, follows her.

FRED
I'm sorry, mi armor.

RITA
[WHISPERED] Amor.

FRED
[WHISPERED] Sorry.

Rita dramatically turns away from him.

RITA
Sorry is not enough!

Maximo's evil laugh echoes out.

RITA
It's not funny!

Maximo climbs over the side of the balcony.

FRED
Guys, now!

Shaggy and Scooby charge Maximo with a net, but he steps
aside and they trip over the side of the balcony.

Fred rushes over, only to discover the pair are a couple feet
below, on a cushioned mat.

RITA (O.S.)
Hey, you guys!

Fred turns as Maximo kidnaps Rita, his guitar swung around his back.

RITA

Let me go, you monster!

Maximo laughs. Daphne and Velma leap in his path.

VELMA

Stop right there, Maximo Malvado!

Maximo looks around and spots a rope. He grabs hold, kicks a weight off the bottom of it and is pulled skyward, Rita still in his clutches.

INT. CATWALK - CONTINUOUS

As Maximo carries Rita, she kicks at him.

RITA

Unhand me!

She breaks free, but Maximo corners her. Rita looks around and grabs a sword from a box of props.

RITA

En garde!

Maximo draws his personal sword and the two engage in some professional level swordplay.

The gang watches from below.

DAPHNE

We've got to do something!

Scooby rushes off screen.

As the sword fight between Rita and Maximo continues, he manages to knock the blade from Rita's grasp. He laughs as he takes careful steps towards her.

Scooby suddenly swings in with a sword of his own and goes toe-to-toe with Maximo. Maximo laughs as he advances on Scooby.

Maximo's laughter turns to confusion when Scooby ducks for cover. As he turns around, Rita smacks Maximo with his own guitar. He falls in a dramatic, slow-motion fashion off the catwalk and into the mouth of a volcano.

INT. ISLAND SET - CONTINUOUS

As the volcano "erupts" foam lava, Maximo oozes out with it as Scooby lowers himself and Rita from above. The rest of the gang rushes over.

RITA

Time to see who Maximo Malvado, el sinvergüenza fantasma, really is!

Rita pulls Maximo's mask off to reveal GENE BARROW, a man who looks identical to Grant Barrow.

EVERYONE

Grant Barrow?

VELMA

Wrong.

RITA

No it's not. I can see him right there.

VELMA

It may look like Grant, but this is actually --

Grant runs in, shocked.

GRANT

Gene?

RITA

[GASPS] An evil twin!

VELMA

Exactly. I did a little research and, according to public records, it looks like Grant inherited the family business after their father had Gene removed from his will.

GRANT

Gene, if you wanted to work together, why didn't you say something?

GENE

Together? Ha! I deserve to run the company on my own. You don't know anything about business. You're too nice, wasting money on this show when you should be investing in real estate or -- or --

Daphne and Shaggy prop up their presentation board.

 DAPHNE
Or this brand new, original series!

 SHAGGY
It's about a group of --

 GENE
No. Not that.

The pair drop their heads in despair.

 GRANT
That's where you're wrong. Dad
believed sometimes an investment
didn't need to make a big profit if
it was supporting something
culturally enriching. That's why he
left the company to me.

 RITA
[TO GENE] Sounds like your plan
didn't pan out.

 GENE
Yeah, thanks to you, legendary star
of film, stage and screen, Rita
Moreno, and these meddling kids.

STUDIO SECURITY escorts Gene away. Daphne and Shaggy follow.

 DAPHNE
Where did we lose you in the pitch?

 SHAGGY
Should we have, like, just opened
with our synopsis?

Gene groans.

Scooby, dressed as a telenovela villain, pops up, looking at
the camera.

 SCOOPY
Scooby-Dooby-Doo!

He lets out a sinister laugh that quickly turns into an
innocent, light-hearted and adorable chuckle.

END OF SHOW